

Eruptive activity at Sakurajima Showa-crater in February 2008

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Sakurajima volcano, which has been active recently, began eruptive activity at Showa-crater on June 4, 2006, after an interval of 58 years. Small eruptive activities were also seen on May 16 and June 20, 2007, and then has been relatively calm for these 7 months, then another eruptive activity started at 00:39 of February 3, 2008.

It contains explosive eruption and small pyroclastic flows: that shows rather different activity from others.

Increase of volcanic earthquakes and prolonged duration of volcanic tremors had been observed since October 2007, and since December 2007, number of earthquakes has been decreased, their amplitude has been bigger and volcanic tremors has been getting calm.

In this lecture, we report those phenomena caused by eruptive activity at Showa-crater in February 2008, such as pyroclastic flows, including activities since autumn 2007, by compiling results of seismic observations, distant-view observations and several site surveys, some of which are done with cooperation of Kyushu Regional Development Bureau and Kagoshima Prefecture.